

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 08319 151300Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00  
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /078 W  
-----118483 160021Z /65

R 151554Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6716  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 08319

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIN, EG  
SUBJ: UPDATE ON JOINT VENTURE BANKS - CAIRO

1. AL AHRAH ANNOUNCED MARCH 14 ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW JOINT VENTURE BANK, INTERNATIONAL CREDIT BANK, WITH 50 PER CENT EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION (NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT) AND 50 PER CENT FRENCH PARTICIPATION (CREDIT COMMERCIAL DE FRANCE). VENTURE CAPITALIZED AT \$10 MILLION. PRESS CITES THIS AS FIRST MAJOR RESULT OF CLOSER EGYPTIAN-FRENCH COOPERATION. BANK PLANS FORMAL OPENING LATER THIS YEAR THOUGH SMALL-SCALE OPERATIONS ARE UNDER WAY AT PRESENT. COINCIDENTALLY PRESS ANNOUNCED PLANS FOR KOREAN JOINT VENTURE BANK ARE BEING FORMULATED. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE 7 KOREAN BANKS (49 PER CENT); BANQUE DU CAIRE (20 PER CENT); AL SHARK INSURANCE COMPANY (20 PER CENT); AND PRIVATE EGYPTIAN SHAREHOLDERS (11 PER CENT). BANK INCORPORATED UNDER TITLE: BANK OF CAIRO AND THE MIDDLE EAST WITH START UP CAPITAL REPORTEDLY \$10 MILLION. LIMITED OPERATION SHOULD BE UNDER WAY BY MID-YEAR.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 08319 151300Z

2. BANKS WILL JOIN FIVE OTHER JOINT COMMERCIAL BANKING VENTURES, INCLUDING NOW INFORMALLY OPERATING MISR AMERICA BANK, A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN BANK OF AMERICA (40 PER CENT), MISR INSURANCE CO. (25 PER CENT), DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRIAL BANK (26 PER CENT), KUWAITI REAL ESTATE BANK (4.5 PER CENT) AND FIRST ARABIA CORPORATION (4.5 PER CENT).

MISR AMERICA HAS NOT ANNOUNCED FORMAL OPENING PENDING  
REFURBISHMENT OF PERMANENT QUARTERS IN DOWNTOWN CAIRO.  
LOCAL MANAGER IS DOING SMALL AMOUNT OF BUSINESS IN ZAMALEK  
OFFICES AND TRAINING STAFF IN ANTICIPATION OF MOVE LATER  
THIS SPRING. OTHER JOINT VENTURES PRESENTLY IN FULL-SCALE  
OPERATION INCLUDE CAIRO BARCLAYS, CHASE NATIONAL (CHASE  
MANHATTAN PARTICIPATION), EGYPTIAN AMERICAN (AMERICAN  
EXPRESS) AND MISR INTERNATIONAL (FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF  
CHICAGO).

3. COMMENT: CONTINUED INCREASE IN FOREIGN BANKS  
REPRESENTED IN CAIRO POINTS UP LUCRATIVE ACTIVITY IN  
FINANCIAL/COMMERCIAL MARKETS. VARIOUS TYPES OF BANKS--  
JOINT VENTURES, FREEZONE, FOREIGN CURRENCY REP OFFICES,  
WHICH HAVE SET UP SHOP SINCE 1974. EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JOINT VENTURES, BANKS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CAIRO08319  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780116-0097  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** CAIRO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780367/aaaacatl.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 795dcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3328711  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UPDATE ON JOINT VENTURE BANKS - CAIRO  
**TAGS:** EFIN, EINV, EG, INTERNATIONAL CREDIT BANK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/795dcec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014